

William Blount to Andrew Jackson, February 15, 1791, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

JACKSON'S COMMISSION AS ATTORNEY FOR MERO DISTRICT.¹

1 April 2, 1790, Congress accepted the cession of Tennessee by North Carolina and erected it into a territory. June 8, 1790, William Blount, of North Carolina, was appointed governor. Reaching Tennessee in the following autumn, he re-established county government under the new authority. Dec. 15, as the local records show, he was at Nashville, "laying out" the government of Davidson County. Among other things, on this day he granted licenses to practise law to Josiah Love, John Overton, Andrew Jackson, David Allison, Howell Tatum, James Cole Mountflorenc, and James White. He also appointed Andrew Jackson attorney general for Mero District, but the commission was not issued until Feb. 15, 1791. The early records of the Davidson County court are in the possession of the Tennessee Historical Society and are published in the *Am. Hist. Mag.*, Nashville, II. 230 ff.

February 15, 1791.

William Blount Governor in and over the Territory of the United States of America South of the River Ohio

To all who shall see these Presents Greeting

Know ye that I do appoint Andrew Jackson Esquire of the County of Davidson Attorney for and in behalf of the State in the District of Mero and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that office according to Law and to have and to hold the

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same with all the Privileges and Emoluments of right appertaining thereto, during his good Behaviour or during the existence of the Temporary Government of the said Territory.

Given under my Hand and Seal in the said Territory this fifteenth day of February one thousand seven hundred and ninety one.

Wm. Blount

Andrew Jackson Esquire Attorney for the State Commission.